

SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORK.

B. G. FREDERICK.

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. II Tim. 2: 15.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him. James 1: 5.

PREPARATION.

Neither piety however deep, nor prayer however frequent, nor earnestness however genuine, can compensate for lack of preparation. It is not enough, simply to know a little about a lesson, but a great deal. You cannot succeed without preparation. Prepare the heart by earnest prayer, and the head by thorough careful study. Commence early; as soon after school on Sabbath as possible, for the next lesson. Read over the text carefully. Compare references, examine concordances and Bible dictionaries.

SECURING ATTENTION.

Strict attention from children is hard to gain, yet we *must* gain it or not succeed in teaching. Skillful questioning, and free use of illustrations will help very much to secure and retain attention.

HOW TO TEACH.

Greet your scholars pleasantly when you meet them in class. Sit in such a position that you can face your class. Arrange seats in a semi-circle when convenient. In order to present the legitimate lesson from Bible truths, two things are necessary. First, a knowledge of facts. Second, an accurate perception, whatever they be, good or evil.

PRINCIPLE OF S. S. TEACHING.

Never to teach what you do not quite understand, and always to lead each child to see that he has gained something useful in each lesson, and always to call back in the children's own language, all the truths taught them, and all the useful lessons of instructions given. Always cultivate simplicity of style.

In teaching the intermediate and primary classes, we find it a difficult task to get the scholars to ask questions from the lesson to see how much they understand of it. At the Ripon Sunday-school, I have adopted the following plan: To give each week a scholar one verse out of the lesson from which to ask a question, and it works well.

DUTIES OF S. S. TEACHER.

First, be constant and strict. Second, thorough acquaintance with the lesson. Third, to keep good order in the class.

Fourth, the teacher should be orderly as well as the scholar. Fifth, A ready, cheerful, co-operation with the superintendent in promoting the interest of the school. Sixth. See that your instructions are enforced by your habitual life and conversation. Your life is a standing lesson. Seventh, encourage your scholars to commit 2 memory verse or two of scripture each week. Eighth, encourage your scholars to be obedient to their parents. You will thus cause the parents to appreciate the SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

SHORT PARAGRAPHS RESPECTING S. SCHOOL.

A Sunday-school can neither be established nor sustained without effort.

The great object of S. schools is to present truth to the mind, and bring it to bear upon the conscience.

Sunday-school teaching is to children what the preaching of the Gospel is to adults.

Sunday-schools offer their benefits alike to the children of the rich and of the poor. Millions of dollars would have been required to hire the labor that has been freely given by teachers in Sunday-schools.

A WORD OF EXHORTATION.

Remember you must meet your class at the bar of God, where you will hear them addressed, "Come ye blessed of my Father," or "depart from me," etc. Matt. 25: 34-41. Labor each Sabbath as you would give an account thereof at the last day. Remember the promises recorded in John 16: 23; Matt. 28: 20; Gal. 6: 9; Rev. 2: 10.

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JOSEPH COOK ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

H. R. HOLSINGER.

In an address of Joseph Cook to the Christian Conference, are the following well-made points against secret societies; they are well worth preserving:

"Of all I wish to say of secret societies, this is the sum: Secret oaths—

"1. *Can be shown historically to have often led to crime.*

"2. *Are natural sources of jealousy and just alarm to society at large.*

"3. *Are especially unfavorable to harmony and mutual confidence among men living together under popular institutions.*

"4. *Are dangerous to the general cause of civil liberty and just government.*

"5. *Are condemned by the severe denunciations of many of the wisest statesmen, preachers, and reformers.*

"6. *Are opposed to Christian principles, especially those implied in these three texts:*

"*'In secret have I said nothing.'*

"*'Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers.'*

"*'Give no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed.'*

"7. *Are forbidden in some portions of our Republic by the civil law, and ought to be in all portions. Many European governments hold Freemasonry under grave suspicion as a mask for conspiracies against throne and altar. In Prussia, Poland, Russia, and Spain, Freemasonry is prohibited by law.*

"8. *Are forbidden to church members by some Christian denominations, and ought to be by all."*

In proof of No. 1 we need only refer the reader to the murder of Mr. Morgan, by the Ereemasons. That of Dr. Cronin of Chicago, by the Clan ne Gael, and of the numerous outrages of the Ku Klux Klan.

Nos. 2, 3, and 4 were abundantly verified during the strikes of 1894, inaugurated by the A. R. U., resulting also in a number of murders.—

OUT OF DARKNESS INTO LIGHT.

GEORGE A. RUFF.

There is one great principle which characterizes our times more decidedly than any period of the past. Mind is advancing in all that can promise glory and happiness. It is soaring high into the realms of the material universe, and unfolding its God announcing words; it is piercing deep into the dark recesses of our little world, and reading power, and wisdom, and goodness in the hand writing traced by the finger of God upon the tablets of his own workmanship; it is dis severing matter, and displaying the magical properties of its component parts; it is subduing the long established tyranny of the old elements, and compelling them to yield their power subservient to the good of man. The mind is, in short, obtaining a glimpse of the true God through the media of his Word and his works, and unraveling the mysteries of the nature of man, developing the transcendent powers with which he is endowed, unfolding the laws to which he is subject physically and spiritually, and, more than all, if anything can be more, is abandoning error—ay, breaking the thralldom of sin, and becoming free to take a high stand in the moral grades of the universe.

Thus progress is onward. Heaven says, "Come up higher," and obedient man would obey. Let us keep "right on," in the right direction, guided by his light, and we shall surely reach the haven of eternal peace.

Love is the sworn enemy of laziness.